

**Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board**

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**FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

SUBJECT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS: Speech-Language Pathology Assistant/ Bachelor's Degree Applicants- Field Work Equivalency

SECTIONS AFFECTED: Amend Sections 1399.170.11 of Title 16, Division 13.4, Article 12

UPDATE OF INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

The Initial Statement of Reasons is included in this rulemaking file (). The Board modified the proposed text contained in the initial notice package as a result of a motion of the Board at the January 26, 2007 Board meeting. The information contained therein is updated as follows:

The originally proposed regulation language was noticed by the Office of Administrative Law on December 8, 2006 (OAL File #Z06-01127-01). The Board filed the regulation package to amend existing provisions and provide an additional avenue for individuals who meet specified academic training and clinical training or equivalent work experience to qualify for registration as speech-language pathology assistants.

There was no hearing held on the regulatory proposal and the Board did not receive a request for such hearing. In addition, the Board did not receive any formal written comments on the proposed action as originally noticed. However, due to some confusion regarding the specific language as adopted by the Board at its October 26-27, 2006 meetings, the Board revisited the regulation proposal at its January 26, 2007 meeting to discuss the intended work experience parameters. It was decided that the text as originally noticed in Section 1399.170.11 (b)(3), should be revised to reflect the Board's motion of a nine-month work experience criterion as opposed to the original text that required one-year of full-time work experience. As such, the Board noticed the modified text and the addition of documents, that being the draft meeting minutes of the January 26, 2007 Board meeting, from February 5, 2007 through February 21, 2007. No comments were received during the fifteen (15) day modified text comment period.

UNDERLYING DATA

The following document was added to the rulemaking file and was notice during to the public for fifteen days as provided above:

1. SLPAB Board Meeting Minutes Excerpts, January 26, 2007.

LOCAL MANDATE

The proposed regulations do not impose any mandate on local agencies or school districts.

BUSINESS IMPACT

This regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on businesses as it makes minor changes to the academic requirements for paraprofessionals to register in the state.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

No reasonable alternative to the regulation would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation.

OBJECTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS/RESPONSES TO COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE NOTICE PERIOD (12/8/06-1/22/07)

No comments were received during the initial 45-day comment period.

SUMMARY AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE 15-DAY NOTICE PERIOD (2/5/07-2/21/07):

No comments were received on the modified text during the 15-day comment period.